

Massachusetts
Department of Correction

**Quarterly Report on the
Status of Prison Overcrowding,
Third Quarter of 1997**

**Submitted in Compliance with Chapter 799
Section 21 of the Acts of 1985**

Michael T. Maloney
Commissioner

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1997 Third Quarter Report

Section Twenty-one of the Chapter 799 of the Acts of 1985 directs the Commissioner of Correction to report quarterly on the status of overcrowding in the state and county facilities. This statute calls for the following information:

Such report shall include, by facility, the average daily census for the period of the report and the actual census on the Second and the last days of the report period.

Said report shall also contain such information for the previous twelve months and a comparison to the rated capacity of such facility.

This report presents the required statistics for the third quarter of 1997.

This report was prepared by Ramon V. Raagas and Hollie Matthews of Research and Planning and is based on daily countsheets prepared by the Classification Division.

1997 Third Quarter Report

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Technical Notes

- The official capacity or custody level designation for each facility can change for a number of reasons, e.g. expansion of facility beds, decrease of facility beds due to fire, or changes in contracts with vendors. In all tables the capacity and custody level reflects the status at the end of the reporting period. The design capacity is reported for correctional facilities in Tables 1, 2, 3, and 4.
- On November, 15, 1996, one hundred new modular beds were added to MCI Concord, increasing its design capacity to 614. Ninety-six modular beds were also added to MCI Norfolk, increasing its total to 1,084 beds. Pondville Correctional Center was reclassified from Custody Level 3/2 to Custody Level 3.
- Two hundred forty-three new modular beds were added to Middlesex (Billerica) House of Correction during November 15, 1996, increasing its total to 1,035 beds.
- Due to changes in the Massachusetts General Law, DOC consolidated one unit at the Bridgewater Treatment Center and back filled with general population inmates. These design capacity beds were placed on-line November 8, 1996 and first appeared on the November 12, 1996 daily count sheet. Two hundred and fifty five beds were placed on line during the third quarter of 1997.
- Due to the Department's policy changes, the security level of MCI-Shirley (Min) was changed from Security Level 3/2 to Security Level 3 during the first quarter of 1996.
- On January 31, 1995, the design capacity for the Departmental Segregation Units (DSU) at MCI-Cedar Junction and MCI-Norfolk were taken off the count sheets. The segregation units are considered support beds and are not shown on the daily count sheet as design capacity. This resulted in the elimination of 91 beds (60 at Cedar Junction and 31 at Norfolk) from the previous quarterly reports.
- In previous quarterly reports, the population figures for PPREP were included with the Park Drive population. The PPREP population is reported independently starting with the first quarter of 1995.
- Where relevant, the population figures for all facilities include both male and female inmates except as shown at Lancaster.
- State inmates housed in the Hampshire county contract program are included in the county population tables, as are all other state inmates housed in county facilities.
- Longwood Treatment Center is a specialized DOC facility for individuals incarcerated for O.U.I. Because the inmates are primarily county sentenced inmates, the inmate count and bed capacity are also included in Tables 3 and 4.
- The Massachusetts Boot Camp opened on August 17, 1992, and is located at the Bridgewater Correctional complex in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. Prior to 1993, the Boot Camp was listed as a DOC minimum security facility. In August, 1995, 128 beds were designated to security level 4 (state inmates) and 128 beds for county inmates. In October, 1995, these beds were added to security level 4 design capacity, and 128 beds were added to House of Correction tables.
- Norfolk County includes Braintree, Dedham, and Norfolk Contract. Middlesex County includes both Billerica and Cambridge. Berkshire County includes the pre-release facility. Essex County includes Middleton and Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center. Bristol County includes Dartmouth, Eastern Massachusetts Alternative Center and Pre-Release.
- Nashua Street inmates housed at other facilities are reported in the counts for the facilities in which they are in custody.
- During June, 1993, Plymouth House of Correction added 833 beds increasing its total to 1,140 beds.

- On April 18, 1995, new security level changes were established according to 103 DOC 101 Correctional Institutions/Custody Levels policy which states:

Custody Levels:

- **Level One.** The least restrictive in the department and is reserved only for those inmates who are at the end of their sentence and have been identified as posing little to no threat to the community. Supervision is minimal and indirect.

- **Level Two.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate maximum responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions prior to their release. Direct supervision of these inmates is not required, but intermittent observation may be appropriate under certain conditions. Inmates within this level may be permitted to access the community unescorted to participate in programming to include, but not limited to, work release, educational release, etc.

- **Level Three.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of returning to the inmate a greater sense of personal responsibility and autonomy while still providing for supervision and monitoring of behavior and activity. Inmates within this security level are not considered a serious risk to the safety of staff, inmates or to the public. Program participation is mandated and geared toward their potential reintegration into the community. Access to the community is limited and under constant direct staff supervision.

- **Level Four.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate some degree of responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions, while still insuring the safety of staff and inmates. Design/construction is generally characterized by high security parameters and limited use of internal physical barriers. Inmates at this level have demonstrated the ability to abide by rules and regulations and require intermittent supervision. However, behavior in the community, i.e., criminal sentence and/or the presence of serious outstanding legal matters indicate the need for some control and for segregation from the community. Job and program opportunities exist for all inmates within the perimeter of the facility.

- **Level Five.** A custody level in which design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates. Inmates accorded to this status may present an escape risk or pose a threat to other inmates, staff, or the orderly running of the institution, however, at a lesser degree than those at level 6. Supervision remains constant and direct. Through an inmates willingness to comply with institutional rules and regulations, increased job and program opportunities exist.

- **Level Six.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates primarily through the use of high security parameters and extensive use of internal physical barriers and check points. Inmates accorded this status present serious escape risks or pose serious threats to themselves, to other inmates, to staff, or the orderly running of the institution. Supervision of inmates is direct and constant. Inmates are confined to their cells at all times, except when they are removed for authorized activities. Inmates within their status, when removed from their cell, are typically under escort and in restraints.

Abbreviations

AC	- Addiction Center	OCCC	- Old Colony Correctional Center
ADP	- Average Daily Population	OUI	- Operating Under the Influence
ATU	- Awaiting Trial Unit	PPREP	- Pre-Parole Residential Environmental Phase Program
CRS	- Contract Residential Services. Includes Charlotte House, and Houston House	PRC	- Pre-Release Center
DDU	- Departmental Disciplinary Unit	SECC	- Southeastern Correctional Ctr.
DOC	- Department of Correction	SDPTC	- Sexually Dangerous Person Treatment Center
DSU	- Departmental Segregation Unit	SMCC	- South Middlesex Correctional Center (formerly SMPRC)
HOC	- House of Correction	SH	- State Hospital
NECC	- Northeastern Correctional Center	TC	- Treatment Center (Longwood)
NCCI	- North Central Correctional Institution at Gardner		

Table 1 provides the DOC figures for the third quarter of 1997. As this table indicates, the DOC population (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, Longwood TC, Mass. Boot Camp) increased by 22 inmates during the third quarter. At the end of the quarter, the DOC operated with 10,046 inmates in the system, and the average daily population was 10,061 with a design capacity of 7,061. Thus, the DOC operated at 142 percent of design capacity.

Population in DOC Facilities, July 1, 1997 to September 30, 1997

Custody Level/ Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<u>Custody Level 6</u>					
Cedar Junction	809	800	806	633	128%
Framingham - ATU	109	63	112	64	170%
<u>Custody Level 5</u>					
OCCC	699	687	700	488	143%
<u>Custody Level 4</u>					
Concord	1,195	1,197	1,218	614	195%
Framingham	494	519	502	388	127%
Norfolk	1,516	1,514	1,521	1,084	140%
Bay State	295	296	295	266	111%
NCCI	960	966	948	568	169%
SECC	804	808	805	456	176%
Shurley-Medium	1,093	1,094	1,091	720	152%
Mass Boot Camp	90	69	120	128	70%
*Treatment Center	342	315	349	300	114%
Sub-Total	8,406	8,328	8,467	5,709	147%
<u>Custody Level 3</u>					
Plymouth	188	192	186	151	125%
NECC	243	267	220	150	162%
SECC-Minimum	97	96	92	100	97%
Shurley-Lower	354	356	345	403	88%
Pondville	186	197	173	100	186%
<u>Custody Level 3/2</u>					
Lancaster-Male	125	125	123	94	133%
Lancaster-Female	52	52	57	59	88%
SMCC	200	200	188	125	160%
Sub-Total	1,445	1,485	1,384	1,182	122%
<u>Custody Level 2</u>					
Boston State	99	99	86	55	180%
Park Drive	47	47	49	50	94%
Hodder House	33	34	35	35	94%
<u>Custody Level 1</u>					
Charlotte	11	14	7	15	73%
Houston House	10	10	8	15	67%
PPREP	10	7	10	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-Total	210	211	195	170	124%
Total	10,061	10,024	10,046	7,061	142%
Bridgewater SH	380	371	383	227	167%
Bridgewater TC	191	200	191	216	88%
Bridgewater AC	107	85	124	214	50%
Longwood TC	140	138	144	125	112%
Sub-Total	818	794	842	782	105%
Grand Total	10,879	10,818	10,888	7,843	139%
Houses of Correction	737	713	767	n a	n a
Federal Prisons	26	26	27	n a	n a
Inter-State Contract	373	368	383	n.a	n.a

(* See Technical Notes)

Table 2 provides the DOC figures for the previous twelve months - i.e., for the period July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997. These figures indicate that the DOC population increased by 333, or 3 percent, over this twelve month period (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, Longwood TC, Mass. Boot Camp), from 9,697 in July, 1996 to 10,030 in June, 1997.

Population in DOC Facilities, July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997					
Custody Level/ Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<u>Custody Level 6</u>					
Cedar Junction	877	814	799	633	139%
Framingham - ATU	117	105	94	64	183%
<u>Custody Level 5</u>					
OCCC	705	739	691	488	144%
<u>Custody Level 4</u>					
Concord	1,228	1,117	1,207	614	200%
Framingham	495	492	487	388	128%
Norfolk	1,464	1,335	1,514	1,084	135%
Bay State	295	295	295	266	111%
NCCI	1,009	1,010	966	568	178%
SECC	838	845	806	456	184%
Shirley-Medium	1,099	1,106	1,099	720	153%
Mass Boot Camp	106	128	69	128	83%
*Treatment Center	106	-	311	45	236%
Sub-Total	8,339	7,986	8,338	5,454	153%
<u>Custody Level 3</u>					
Plymouth	189	171	193	151	125%
NECC	252	243	264	150	168%
SECC-Minimum	104	107	97	100	104%
Shirley-Lower	348	349	355	403	86%
Pondville	196	198	196	100	196%
<u>Custody Level 3/2</u>					
Lancaster-Male	170	200	125	94	181%
Lancaster-Female	63	72	51	59	107%
SMCC	190	156	199	125	152%
Sub-Total	1,512	1,496	1,480	1,182	128%
<u>Custody Level 2</u>					
Boston State	93	100	100	55	169%
Park Drive	45	49	47	50	90%
Hodder House	30	28	34	35	86%
<u>Custody Level 1</u>					
Charlotte	10	8	14	15	67%
Houston House	10	10	10	15	67%
PPREP	12	20	7	n a	n a
Sub-Total	200	215	212	170	118%
Total	10,051	9,697	10,030	6,806	148%
Bridgewater SH	355	312	368	227	156%
Bridgewater TC	214	248	197	216	99%
Bridgewater AC	116	134	81	214	54%
Longwood TC	147	131	138	125	118%
Sub-Total	832	825	784	782	106%
Grand Total	10,883	10,522	10,814	7,588	143%
Houses of Correction	746	832	715	n a	n a
Federal Prisons	29	30	26	n a	n a
Inter-State Contract	340	334	368	n a	n a

(* See Technical Notes)

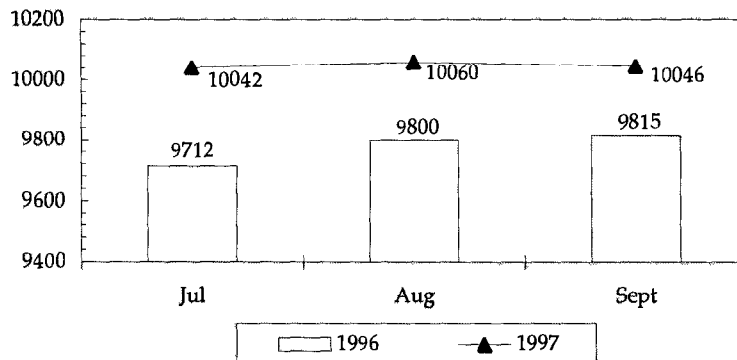
Table 3 presents the county figures for the third quarter of 1997. The county population increased by 529 inmates, or 4 percent during this quarter. At the end of the quarter, the county system operated with 12,905 inmates, and the average daily population was 12,531 in facilities with a total design capacity of 8,356. Thus, the county system operated at 150 percent of design capacity.

Population in County Correctional Facilities, July 1, 1997 to September 30, 1997					
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	290	295	291	110	264%
Berkshire	252	251	258	116	217%
Bristol	1,352	1,266	1,467	666	203%
Dukes	21	20	21	19	111%
Essex	1,344	1,368	1,325	635	212%
Franklin	127	128	147	63	202%
Hampden	1,621	1,596	1,680	1,178	138%
Hampden-OUI	138	137	152	125	110%
Hampshire	259	252	264	248	104%
Middlesex	1,369	1,360	1,391	1,035	132%
Norfolk	633	627	613	379	167%
Plymouth	1,267	1,260	1,298	1,140	111%
Suffolk-Nashua St	682	668	682	453	151%
Suffolk-So Bay	1,768	1,790	1,833	1,146	154%
Worcester	1,214	1,165	1,281	790	154%
Longwood TC	140	138	144	125	112%
Mass. Boot Camp	54	55	58	128	42%
Total	12,531	12,376	12,905	8,356	150%

Table 4 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months. These figures indicate that the county population increased by 669 inmates or 6 percent over this twelve-month period, from 11,612 in July 1996, to 12,281 in June, 1997.

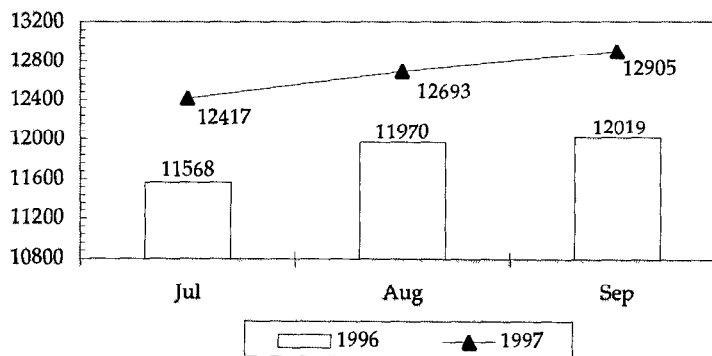
Population in County Correctional Facilities, July 1, 1996 to June 30, 1997					
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	288	263	290	110	262%
Berkshire	256	236	254	116	221%
Bristol	1,223	1,144	1,268	666	184%
Dukes	22	22	20	19	116%
Essex	1,379	1,361	1,351	635	217%
Franklin	128	132	126	63	203%
Hampden	1,553	1,429	1,581	1,178	132%
Hampden-OUI	133	130	140	125	106%
Hampshire	269	255	250	248	108%
Middlesex	1,334	1,281	1,332	1,035	129%
Norfolk	605	586	628	379	160%
Plymouth	1,186	1,173	1,260	1,140	104%
Suffolk-Nashua St	612	608	648	453	135%
Suffolk-So Bay	1,810	1,539	1,786	1,146	158%
Worcester	1,198	1,219	1,154	790	152%
Longwood TC	146	135	138	125	117%
Mass Boot Camp	65	99	55	128	51%
Total	12,207	11,612	12,281	8,356	146%

Figure 1.
DOC Sentenced Population, Third Quarter of 1996 and 1997



The graph above compares the DOC sentenced population in 1996 to that in 1997. In July, 1997 the DOC population increased by 330 inmates (3%) from the same month in 1996; in August, the population increased by 260 inmates (3%); and in September, an increase of 231 inmates or 2 percent.

Figure 2.
HOC Population, Third Quarter of 1996 and 1997



The graph above compares the HOC population in 1996 to that in 1997. In July, 1997 the HOC population increased by 849 inmates (7%) from the same month of 1996; in August, the population increased by 723 inmates (6%); and in September, an increase of 886 inmates or 7 percent.

Note: Data from figures 1 and 2 were taken from the end of the month daily count sheet compiled by the Classification Division.

Table 5 provides statistics on court commitments by gender to the DOC in 1996 and 1997. Overall, there has been a decrease of 163 commitments, or minus 7 percent for 1997 in comparison with the number of commitments in 1996, from 2,342 to 2,179. Male commitments for 1997 decreased by 51, or minus 3 percent from 1996. Female commitments during 1997 decreased by 112, or minus 13 percent compared to the number of commitments during the same period in 1996.

Court Commitments by Gender			
	1996	1997	Diff.
<u>Males</u>			
First Quarter	528	545	3%
Second Quarter	512	474	-7%
Third Quarter	461	431	-7%
Sub-total	1,501	1,450	-3%
<u>Females</u>			
First Quarter	260	251	-3%
Second Quarter	291	232	-20%
Third Quarter	290	246	-15%
Sub-total	841	729	-13%
Total	2,342	2,179	-7%

Figure 3 provides a graphical representation of the number of court commitments by gender to the DOC during the third quarter of 1996 and the third quarter of 1997.

